Statement-II

Profit after tax of PSU Oil Marketing Companies

(Rs. crore)

Profit after tax for PSU Oil Companies	2006-07 (Apr.-Dec.'06) (Unaudited)	2005-06
IOC	5889.80	4915.12
HPC	1021.63	405.63
BPC	1135.50	291.60
IBP	106.98	12.44

Iran's preference for India's private sector

†3606. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Iran is reported to be identifying companies in private sector in India through which trade activities related to supply of crude oil and gas can be started;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the reasons for Iran giving priority to the private sector instead of the public sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Government is not aware of Iran identifying companies in private sector in India for supply of crude oil and gas through them. As per the extant EXIM Policy, private refineries are free to source their crude oil requirement directly without any Government restrictions.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.